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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 611

Offered January 14, 2015

Prefiled January 13, 2015

*Celebrating the life of Sergeant Charles Calvin Strong, USMC.*

Patrons—Jones; Senator: Cosgrove

WHEREAS, Sergeant Charles Calvin Strong, USMC, of Suffolk, was killed in action in Herat, Afghanistan, on September 15, 2014; and

WHEREAS, a native of Suffolk, Charles Strong joined the United States Marine Corps after graduating from Nansemond River High School in 2003; and

WHEREAS, a focused and hardworking Marine, Charles Strong was promoted to private first class at Fort Leonard Wood, where he trained as a motor transport operator; he later served with an aviation support unit and received military police training; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, Charles Strong deployed to Iraq as a lance corporal with a motor transport unit; he was promoted to corporal and attended a specialized vehicle recovery training course; and

WHEREAS, during his second tour of duty in Iraq, Charles Strong served as the only vehicle recovery operator in his battalion, and after returning home, he attended Officer Candidate School in 2007 and was promoted to sergeant; and

WHEREAS, after serving as a physical training instructor, Sergeant Strong deployed to Afghanistan as a team leader and navigator for logistical mounted patrols, then applied for training under Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Strong made the ultimate sacrifice on his fourth combat tour, while serving with Marine Special Operations Team 821 in Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, the recipient of numerous awards and decorations throughout his distinguished military career, Sergeant Strong earned the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, and the Combat Action Ribbon; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Strong's noble sacrifice is a reminder of the dangers faced by American men and women in uniform around the world, whose dedication to duty and country places them in harm's way; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Strong will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Taylor; parents, Donald and Mary; and numerous other family members, friends, and fellow Marines; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of Sergeant Charles Calvin Strong, USMC; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Sergeant Charles Calvin Strong, USMC, as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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